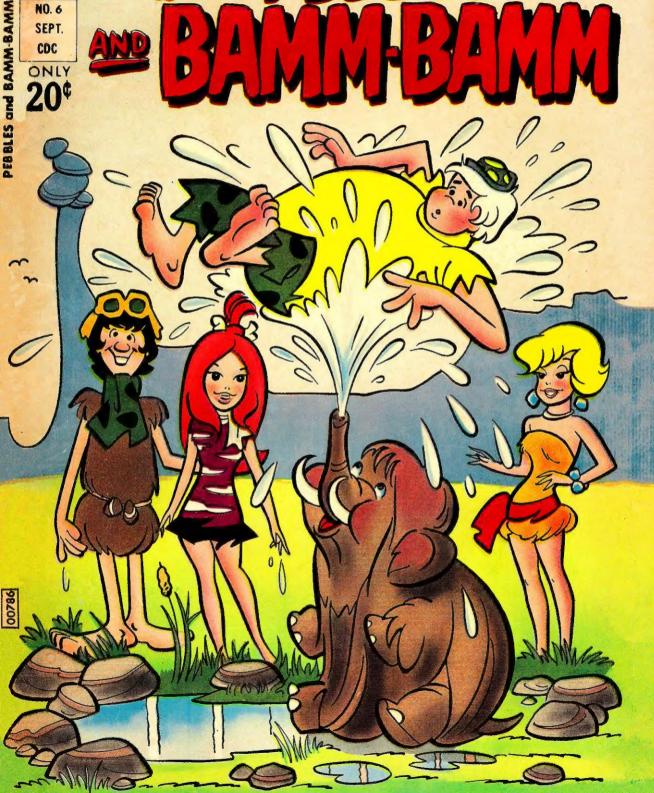
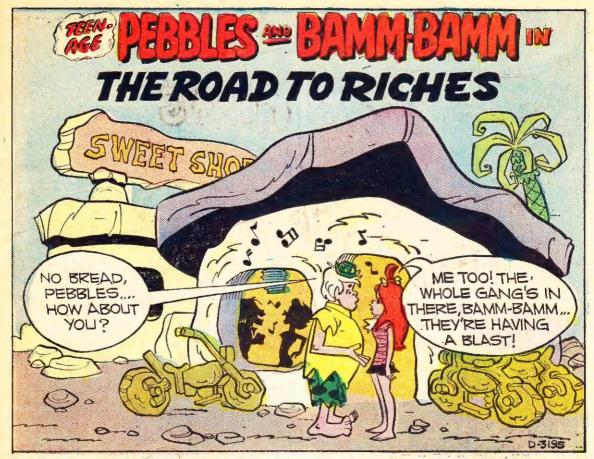


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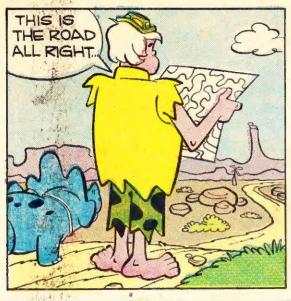




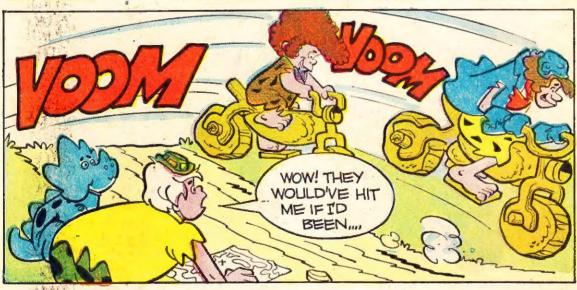










































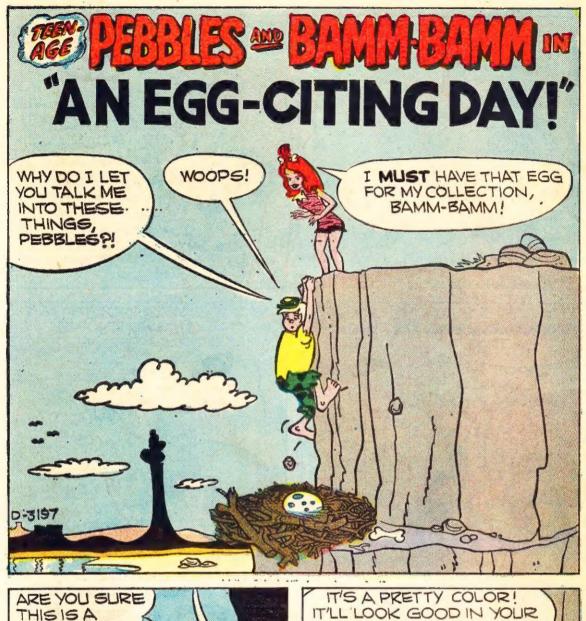


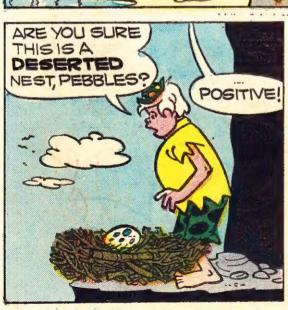








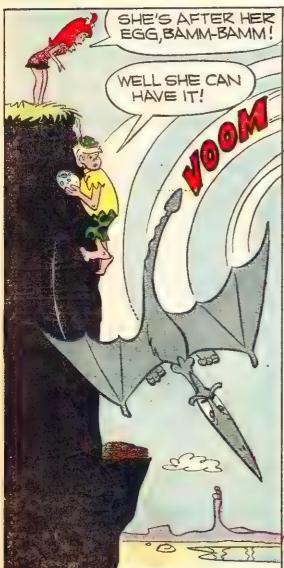




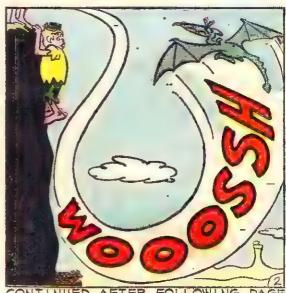












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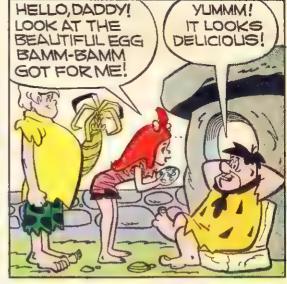
































































Polly The Pigeon was the first to arrive at the Friday morning monthly meeting of the Inhabitants of Eco Lake and its vicinity. When they had all gathered there, she mounted the Big Rock and began the meeting.

"We are here to help Squaro the Squirrel. He has a very big problem and it is up to you to find the solution. As he gets older, he gets more and more forgetful. During the summer he finds acorns. And nice people give him peanuts. These he buries in the ground. But he has started to forget where he buries them. And if he can't find his food supply he will go hungry. Now the chair is open for ideas."

"I don't see an open chair," remarked Chippy the Chipmunk. "And if there were an open chair how could it be open for ideas? Please explain that to me,"

"That's an expression that humans use at meetings. I thought it would be impressive. So I'm sorry. All I want is to find out how to help an old friend of ours."

"I have a very simple suggestion," said Froggie the Frog. "Let him take a memory course. Then he will remember where he hid his acorns and peanuts."

"Very good suggestion," commented Tillie the Trout, who stuck her head out of the water, "What is the name of the course you took?"

"I forgot the name," admitted Froggie the Frog. "I also forgot how much I paid for it. And I forgot where I hid it."

"I am sick and tired of hearing such nonsense from the mouth of Froggie the Frog." said Willie the Worm. "We ought to do something about it."

"Protest! Protest!" shouted Buzzie the Bec. "I amlaking a good look at Willie the Worm. He doesn't ook sick. And he doesn't look tired. So I suggest that the next time he makes any comment he carefully weighs his words."

"Very good idea." said Polly the Pigeon. "At the next meeting I will bring a scale. Then we will weigh every word that Willie the Worm wants to use. If the words are too heavy, he can't use them. If they are too light, he also can't use them. Each word must be exactly the weight that is needed. Now continue with our meeting. Come on, where are the ideas to help our friend?"

"I have a simple idea that might help," said Robbie The Redbreast. "Let Squaro the Squirrel make markers or signs. Where he buries his food supplyright over that spot he should put a sign or marker."

"Thank you for the suggestion," said Squaro the Squirrel. "I think I can get a sign painter to make some small signs for me. Any other ideas that might be helpful?"

"We ought to open a bank with a safe deposit vault in it," said Buzzie the Bee, "Then our friend could put all his acorns and peanuts in a special safe deposit box. That ought to help him."

"I want to thank you for that suggestion," said Squaro the Squirrel. Any more ideas that might help me?"

"All our food problems could be solved if the Conservation Department of this State opened a big food store only for us," said Froggie the Frog. "Maybe the Federal Government would also give us food stamps. If we only had a representative in Congress to listen to our petitions."

"We need something that can be done in a hurry," said Martha the Mole. "At the side of the lake is the old drainage pipe. We go and collect all the old cans and bottles we can find. Squaro the Squirrel will put his acorns and peanuts in them. Then deposit them-free of charge-in the old drainage pipe. If he should forget where he put them, we all know the place. And we will remind him. We might even write a ballad called, "The Old Drainage Pipe". That ought to do the trick,"

"It is very cheerful to know that I have such good friends here," said Squaro the Squirrel, "I will give my best attention to each of these ideas. And by next week I will decide which one to use."

"I am glad we were able to help our old friend," said Polly The Pigeon. "Meeting is now adjoined."

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